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OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314				
EXAMINER				
SARPONG, AKWASI				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/798,437

Applicant(s)

TANAKA ET AL.

Examiner

AKWASI M. SARPONG

Art Unit

2625

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 October 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 and 43-55 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 and 43-55 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/24/2008, 11/13/2006, 05/31/2006, 01/17/2006, 11/21/2005, 11/12/2004 and 07/27/2004
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. Claims 1-28, and 43-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The applicant claimed in Claims 1, 15 and 43 a mapping part but does not mention in either in the specification or in the drawings of his invention.
2. Claims 2-14, 16-28 and 44-56 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement because claims 2-14 depends on claim 1, claims 16-28 depends on claim 15 and Claims 44-56 depends on claim 43.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negative by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ikegami (6745334) in view of Kurokawa (5887088).

Ikegami discloses an image forming apparatus that can include a plurality of applications, **(Fig. 1 shows an image forming apparatus that includes scanning, printing and faxing)** the image forming apparatus comprising:

a displaying part **(Fig. 6 shows clearly a display)** displaying a screen used for selecting an application on an operation display part of the image forming apparatus **(Col. 7, Lines 45-50, Fig. 6 172 shows clearly that different applications like copying, faxing, printing can be selected by pressing the appropriate key or button)** ; and

a processing part **(Col. 4 lines 45-51, Fig. 2 El. 171 and 170, thus CPU coordinates the interruptions between users input and the application of the copier)** mapping a selected application that is selected on the screen to a function key when the function key is pushed such that the selected application is executed when the function key is later pushed after mapping of the selected application has occurred **(Col. 8 Lines 18-25, fig. 6, thus when a key is pressed or depressed the corresponding application is recognized or mapped as the operating mode of the image forming apparatus).**

(NB: Col. 8 Lines 28-47- thus when a function key is pressed, the CPU 171 corresponds the depressed key to the operation mode of the image processing device either the user wants to use the copying or scanning or faxing mode of the image processing device)

wherein the function key **(Fig. 6 El. 601, 604, 607 and 610, thus these keys are use to select the appropriate application)** is a key used for a user to select and

execute an application from a plurality of applications that are useable on the image forming apparatus. **(Col. 7 Lines 47-60, Fig. 6 El. 172, thus when a user presses a copying key then among printing and faxing application copying is selected and all these applications processed on the digital copier shown in Fig. 1).**

Ikegami does not name the processor a mapping part.

Kurokawa discloses a mapping function that maps the plurality of applications with the application Ids. (Col. 19 lines 25-55-thus application ID or form ID corresponds to a particular program like a scanning or Fax or printing program shown in Fig. 37). Therefore it will be obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ikegami processing part to include naming the processing part that performs the mapping function as the mapping part so that each application can have one to one corresponding ID when a human is trying to refer to the part to another human.

Claim 2, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses an image forming apparatus wherein the function key is a hardware key. **(Ikegami: Col. 7 Lines 47-60, Fig. 6 show a control panel which is a hardware key)**

Claim 3, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein the function key is a software key that is displayed on the operation display part of the image forming

apparatus. **(Ikegami: Col. 4 Lines 45-51, thus the software are embedded in the CPU 171 which controls or process the control panel)**

Claim 4, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein mapping by the assigning part is performed when the image forming apparatus is in a mode for assigning the selected application to the function key **(Ikegami: Col. 8 Lines 25-65, thus the application key mode puts the apparatus into the mode for assigning the selected application) .**

Claim 5, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein when mapping of the selected application is performed the image forming apparatus displays a guidance screen **(Ikegami: Fig. 6 El. 617, Guidance key)** indicating an operation of the function key on the operation display part of the image forming apparatus. **(Ikegami: Col. 8 Lines 1-10, thus is copy application is selected it shows on the screen that copies is being made)**

Claim 6, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein the guidance screen includes an image of an operation panel of the image forming apparatus **(Ikegami: Col. 7 Lines 45-55, thus the Operation or control panel helps in guiding the user through using the image forming apparatus)** and an image for guiding a user to the function key. **(Ikegami: Col. 8 Lines 1-10, thus the guidance key may be use to help the user in operating the apparatus)**

Claim 7, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein, when mapping of the selected application is performed, the image forming apparatus displays a screen indicating the number of applications mapping to the function key. **(Ikegami: Col. 7 Lines 45-60, Fig. 6 thus fig. 6 shows clearly that copying application is pressed and therefore it shows vividly on the panel or LCD that it is the application being operated).**

Claim 8, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein, when the function key is pushed for the selected application, the image forming apparatus displays a screen indicating that the function key cannot be mapped to the selected application if the number of applications assigned to the function key already reaches a limit number. **(Ikegami: Col. 9 Lines 44-61, Fig. 620, thus it clearly shows that copying is possible and therefore it can be done, if it is impossible it will tell otherwise)**

Claim 9, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses the mapping part including: a part obtaining a function key ID corresponding to the pushed function key **(Col. 4 Lines 33-45, thus when a copy button is pressed, CPU 171 communicates with 172) and**

a part storing an application ID of the selected application **(Memory storing the application address in Fig. 2 El. 174 and 175)** and the obtained function key ID in which the application ID is associated with the function key ID. **(Col. 4 Lines 40-51, Fig.**

2 thus there is a linkage between the key and the software that supports the function key which operates through the Processor as a communication means)

Claim 10, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein, in addition to the function key ID, the image forming apparatus stores extension key IDs for identifying a plurality of applications assigned to the function key. **(Ikegami: Col. 4 Lines 40-51, thus the extension key ID is stored in CPU 171)**

Claim 11, Ikegami in view Kurokawa discloses wherein, when a function key to which a plurality of applications are assigned is pushed, the image forming apparatus displays a screen including the names of the plurality of applications for a user to select one application from the plurality of applications. **(Ikegami: Col. 8 Lines 5-30, thus there is a printing, copying and scanning application and when a copy application is pressed and it shows clearly as shown in Fig. 6 that copying is possible)**

Claim 12, Ikegami in view Kurokawa discloses wherein the image forming apparatus displays application status for each of the plurality of applications. **(Ikegami: Fig. 6 shows that copying is being done)**

Claim 13, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein the image forming apparatus selects one application from a plurality of applications according to a number of times a user pushes a function key to which the plurality of applications are mapped

within a time period. **(Ikegami: Col. 8 Lines 5-30, thus there is a printing, copying and scanning application and when a copy application is pressed and it shows clearly as shown in Fig. 6 that copying is possible)**

Claim 14, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein the image forming apparatus selects one application from a plurality of applications in which the one application corresponds to an extension key ID that is the same as a number of times a user pushes the function key to which the plurality of applications are mapped within a time period. **(Ikegami: Col. 4 Lines 40-51, thus the extension key ID is stored in CPU 171)**

Claim 15, Ikegami discloses a method used for mapping an application to a function key in an image forming apparatus that can include a plurality of applications, **(Fig. 1 shows an image forming apparatus that includes scanning, printing and faxing)** the method comprising the steps of:

displaying a screen used for selecting an application on an operation display part of the image forming apparatus **(Col. 7, Lines 45-50, Fig. 6 172 shows clearly that different applications like copying, faxing, printing can be selected by pressing the appropriate key or button)** and processing **(CPU 171 since the CPU coordinates the inputs from the sensors as shown in fig. 2)** a selected application that is selected

on the screen to a function key when the function key is pushed for the selected application (**Col. 8 Lines 18-25, fig. 6, thus when a key is pressed or depressed the corresponding application is recognized or assigned as the operating mode of the image forming apparatus**)

wherein the function key (**Fig. 6 El. 601, 604, 607 and 610, thus these keys are use to select the appropriate application**) is a key used for a user to select and execute an application from a plurality of applications. (**Col. 7 Lines 47-60, Fig. 6 El. 172, thus when a user presses a copying key then among printing and faxing application copying is selected**).

Ikegami does not clearly disclose a mapping part.

Kurokawa discloses a mapping function that maps the plurality of applications with the application Ids. (**Col. 19 lines 25-55-thus application ID or form ID corresponds to a particular program like a scanning or Fax or printing program shown in Fig. 37**). Therefore it will be obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ikegami processing part to include Kurokawa's mapping function so that each application can have one to one corresponding ID.

Claim 16, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein the function key is a hardware key. (**Ikegami: Col. 7 Lines 47-60, Fig. 6 show a control panel which is a hardware key**)

Claim 17, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa wherein the function key is a software key that is displayed on the operation display part of the image forming apparatus.

(Ikegami: Col. 4 Lines 45-51, thus the software are embedded in the CPU 171 which controls or process the control panel)

Claim 18, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa wherein the step of assigning is performed when the image forming apparatus is in a mode for assigning the selected application to the function key. **(Ikegami: Col. 8 Lines 25-65, thus the application key mode puts the apparatus into the mode for assigning the selected application) .**

Claim 19, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein when mapping of the selected application is performed, the image forming apparatus displays a guidance screen **(Ikegami: Fig. 6 El. 617, Guidance key)** indicating an operation of the function key on the operation display part of the image forming apparatus. **(Ikegami: Col. 8 Lines 1-10, thus is copy application is selected it shows on the screen that copies is being made)**

Claim 20, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa wherein the guidance screen includes an image of an operation panel of the image forming apparatus **(Ikegami: Col. 7 Lines 45-55, thus the Operation or control panel helps in guiding the user through using the image forming apparatus)** and an image for guiding a user to the function key.

(Ikegami: Col. 8 Lines 1-10, thus the guidance key may be use to help the user in operating the apparatus)

Claim 21, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein, when mapping of the selected application is performed, the image forming apparatus displays a screen indicating the number of applications mapped to the function key. **(Ikegami: Col. 7 Lines 45-60, Fig. 6 thus fig. 6 shows clearly that copying application is pressed and therefore it shows vividly on the panel or LCD that it is the application being operated).**

Claim 22, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein when the function key is pushed for the selected application; the image forming apparatus displays a screen indicating that the function key cannot be mapped to the selected application if the number of applications mapped to the function key already reaches a limit number. **(Ikegami: Col. 9 Lines 44-61, Fig. 620, thus it clearly shows that copying is possible and therefore it can be done, if it is impossible it will tell otherwise)**

Claim 23, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein, in the step of mapping, the image forming apparatus obtains a function key ID corresponding to the pushed function key; and stores an application ID of the selected application **(Ikegami: Memory storing the application address in Fig. 2 El. 174 and 175)** and the obtained function key ID in which the application ID is associated with the function key ID.

(Ikegami: Col. 4 Lines 40-51, Fig. 2 thus there is a linkage between the key and the software that supports the function key which operates through the Processor as a communication means)

Claim 24, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein, in addition to the function key ID, the image forming apparatus stores extension key IDs for identifying a plurality of applications mapped to the function key. **(Ikegami: Col. 4 Lines 40-51, thus the extension key ID is stored in CPU 171)**

Claim 25, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein, when a function key to which a plurality of applications are mapped is pushed, the image forming apparatus displays a screen including the names of the plurality of applications for a user to select one application from the plurality of applications. **(Ikegami: Col. 8 Lines 5-30, thus there is a printing, copying and scanning application and when a copy application is pressed and it shows clearly as shown in Fig. 6 that copying is possible)**

Claim 26, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein the image forming apparatus displays application status for each of the plurality of applications. **(Ikegami: Fig. 6 shows that copying is being done)**

Claim 27, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein the image forming apparatus selects one application from a plurality of applications according to a number

of times a user pushes a function key to which the plurality of applications are mapped within a time period. **(Ikegami: Col. 8 Lines 5-30, thus there is a printing, copying and scanning application and when a copy application is pressed and it shows clearly as shown in Fig. 6 that copying is possible)**

Claim 28, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein the image forming apparatus selects one application from a plurality of applications in which the one application corresponds to an extension key ID that is the same as a number of times a user pushes the function key to which the plurality of applications are mapped within a time period. **(Ikegami: Col. 4 Lines 40-51, thus the extension key ID is stored in CPU 171)**

Claim 29-42-Cancelled,

Claim 43, Ikegami discloses a computer readable medium storing a computer program for causing an image forming apparatus to assign an application to a function key, in which the image forming apparatus can include a plurality of applications, **(Fig. 1 shows an image forming apparatus that includes scanning, printing and faxing)** the computer program comprising:

displaying program code means for displaying a screen used for selecting an application on an operation display part of the image forming apparatus; **(Col. 7, Lines 45-50, Fig. 6 172 shows clearly that different applications like copying, faxing,**

printing can be selected by pressing the appropriate key or button) and processing program code means (CPU 171 since the CPU coordinates the inputs from the sensors as shown in fig. 2) for mapping a selected application that is selected on the screen to a function key when the function key is pushed for the selected application (Col. 8 Lines 18-25, fig. 6, thus when a key is pressed or depressed the corresponding application is recognized or assigned as the operating mode of the image forming apparatus)

wherein the function key (Fig. 6 El. 601, 604, 607 and 610, **thus these keys are use to select the appropriate application**) is a key used for a user to select and execute an application from a plurality of applications. (Col. 7 Lines 47-60, Fig. 6 El. 172, **thus when a user presses a copying key then among printing and faxing application copying is selected**).

Ikegami does not clearly disclose a mapping part.

Kurokawa discloses a mapping function that maps the plurality of applications with the application Ids. (Col. 19 lines 25-55-**thus application ID or form ID corresponds to a particular program like a scanning or Fax or printing program shown in Fig. 37**). Therefore it will be obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ikegami processing part to include Kurokawa's mapping function so that each application can have one to one corresponding ID.

Claim 44, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein the function key is a hardware key. **(Ikegami: Col. 7 Lines 47-60, Fig. 6 show a control panel which is a hardware key)**

Claim 45, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein the function key is a software key that is displayed on the operation display part of the image forming apparatus. **(Ikegami: Col. 4 Lines 45-51, thus the software are embedded in the CPU 171 which controls or process the control panel)**

Claim 46, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein assignment by the assigning program code means is performed when the image forming apparatus is in a mode for assigning the selected application to the function key. **(Ikegami: Col. 8 Lines 25-65, thus the application key mode puts the apparatus into the mode for assigning the selected application).**

Claim 47, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein the assigning program code means displays a guidance screen **(Ikegami: Fig. 6 El. 617, Guidance key)** indicating an operation of the function key on the operation display part of the image forming apparatus. **(Ikegami: Col. 8 Lines 1-10, thus is copy application is selected it shows on the screen that copies is being made)**

Claim 48, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein the guidance screen includes an image of an operation panel of the image forming apparatus (**Ikegami: Col. 7 Lines 45-55, thus the Operation or control panel helps in guiding the user through using the image forming apparatus**) and an image for guiding a user to the function key. (**Ikegami: Col. 8 Lines 1-10, thus the guidance key may be use to help the user in operating the apparatus**)

Claim 49, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein the assigning program code displays a screen indicating the number of application assigned to the function key. (**Ikegami: Col. 7 Lines 45-60, Fig. 6 thus fig. 6 shows clearly that copying application is pressed and therefore it shows vividly on the panel or LCD that it is the application being operated**).

Claim 50, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein the assigning program code displays a screen indicating that the function cannot be assigned to the selected application number of applications assigned to the function already reaches a limit number. (**Ikegami: Col. 9 Lines 44-61, Fig. 620, thus it clearly shows that copying is possible and therefore it can be done, if it is impossible it will tell otherwise**)

Claim 51, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses the assigning program code means including: program code means for obtaining a function key ID corresponding to

the pushed function key; **(Ikegami: Col. 4 Lines 33-45, thus when a copy button is pressed, CPU 171 communicates with 172)** and

and program code means for storing an application ID of the selected application **(Memory storing the application address in Fig. 2 EI. 174 and 175)** and the obtained function key ID in which the application ID is associated with the function key ID. **(Col. 4 Lines 40-51, Fig. 2 thus there is a linkage between the key and the software that supports the function key which operates through the Processor as a communication means)**

Claim 52, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa wherein, in addition to the function key ID, the assigning program code means stores extension key IDs for identifying a plurality of applications assigned to the function key. **(Ikegami: Col. 4 Lines 40-51, thus the extension key ID is stored in CPU 171).**

Claim 53, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses the computer program further comprising displaying program code means for, when a function key to which a plurality of applications are assigned is pushed, displaying a screen including the names of the plurality of applications for a user to select one application from the plurality of applications. . **(Ikegami: Col. 8 Lines 5-30, thus there is a printing, copying and scanning application and when a copy application is pressed and it shows clearly**

as shown in Fig. 6 that copying is possible)

Claim 54, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses wherein the displaying program code means displays application status for each of the plurality of applications.

(Ikegami: Fig. 6 shows that copying is being done)

Claim 55, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses the computer program further comprising program code means for selecting one application from a plurality of applications according to a number of times a user pushes a function key to which the plurality of applications are assigned within a time period. **(Ikegami: Col. 8 Lines 5-30, thus there is a printing, copying and scanning application and when a copy application is pressed and it shows clearly as shown in Fig. 6 that copying is possible).**

Claim 56, Ikegami in view of Kurokawa discloses the computer program further comprising program code means for selecting one application from a plurality of applications in which the one application corresponds to an extension key ID that is the same as a number of times a user pushes the function key to which the plurality of applications are assigned within a time period. **(Ikegami: Col. 4 Lines 40-51, thus the extension key ID is stored in CPU 171).**

Response to applicant's remark

The arguments filed by the applicant on 10/14/2008 has been considered but was not persuasive.

Regarding claim 1, applicant argues that the cited reference does not recite mapping a selected application that is selected on the screen to a function key when the function key is pushed for the selected application.

In reply, examiner respectfully disagrees because Ikegami discloses mapping a selected application that is selected on the screen to a function key when the function key is pushed for the selected application (**Col. 8 Lines 18-25, fig. 6, thus when a key is pressed or selected on the screen as shown in Fig. 6 the corresponding application is recognized or mapped as the operating mode of the image forming apparatus**).

(NB: Col. 8 Lines 28-47- thus when a function key is pressed, the CPU 171 corresponds the depressed key to the operation mode of the image processing device either the user wants to use the copying or scanning or faxing mode of the image processing device, therefore if the user selects a copy key then the copy application is selected as the operation mode for the copier) .

Again regarding claim 1 applicant argues that the function key shown in fig. 6 is not for a user to use it to select an application.

In reply, Examiner respectfully disagrees because Fig. 6 in Ikegami shows clearly a control panel display which is used by users or operator to select from printing or copying applications.

Regarding Claim 15, applicant argues that the cited reference does not disclose mapping a selected application that is selected on the screen.

In reply, Examiner respectfully disagrees because Ikegami discloses mapping a selected application that is selected on the screen. **(Col. 8 Lines 18-25, fig. 6, thus when a key is pressed or selected on the screen as shown in Fig. 6 the corresponding application is recognized or mapped as the operating mode of the image forming apparatus).**

(NB: Col. 8 Lines 28-47- thus when a function key is pressed, the CPU 171 corresponds the depressed key to the operation mode of the image processing device either the user wants to use the copying or scanning or faxing mode of the image processing device, therefore if the user selects a copy key then the copy application is selected as the operation mode for the copier) .

Conclusion

3. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AKWASI M. SARPONG whose telephone number is (571)270-3438. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm est.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, King Poon can be reached on 571-272-7440. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/King Y. Poon/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625

AMS
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